



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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April 11, 2000

Johnny Pappas, Sr Environmental Engineer
Plateau Mining Corporation
847 Northwest Highway 191
Helper, UT 84526

Re: Conditional Approval, Willow Creek As-Built's Text Update, Plateau Mining Corporation,
Willow Creek Mine, ACT/007/038-AM00A, Outgoing File

The as-built amendment and the text provided for recent construction at pond 001 is approved for incorporation into the Mining and Reclamation Plan, conditioned upon receipt of five clean copies. The embankment to pond 001 and replacement of the coal fines found in the embankment with clean fill, is hereby conditionally approved with two stipulations. The amendment did not provide adequate discussion on how the requirements of the R645 regulations would be met in addressing coal waste in the embankment.

The following permit conditions remain from the previous conditional approval.

- 1) Certification that all design standards in the R645 regulations were met during pond construction. This should include certification that the pond can be safely operated in any areas where the coal waste might remain and should include any additional design and construction requirements for the structure (R645-301-514-300).
- 2) Provide slope stability analyses as required under R645-301-533 assuming rapid drawdown in the pond and an elevated water surface in Willow Creek for critical sections of the embankment.

The copies and remaining information are expected to arrive at the division by no later than May 10, 2000. If you have further questions you may contact Sharon Falvey, Pete Hess, or myself.

Sincerely,

Daron R. Haddock
Permit Supervisor

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cc: Joe Wilcox, OSM
Richard Manus, BLM
Mark Page, Water Rights
Dave Ariotti, DEQ
Price Field Office

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